West Virginia Libraries

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CONTENTS

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK 2
COLLEGE LIBRARY SECTION. PROJECTS FOR 1960. 4
CENTRALIZED CATALOGING OF LOCAL HISTORY 6
BOOKS & PAMPHLETS ADDED TO THE WEST VIRGINIA COLLECTION 9
NEWS FROM THE FIELD 11
TREASURER'S REPORT 13

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

By way of introduction, in this my first official message to the West Virginia Library Association membership-at-large, I should like to express my gratitude for the confidence you have placed in me. This administration, with your cooperation and enthusiasm, will continue to strive for the advancement of library service and librarianship to the advantage of all West Virginians.

In any organization much of what is accomplished--or left undone--rests principally with the membership. Active and interested participation in affairs of the Association is an obligation which must be fulfilled. One cannot and must not impose on a dedicated few, who year after year, accept the burdens of responsibility. It behooves all of us to share in the work load by giving freely of the commodities of time and effort.

You will be asked, for example, to assist vigorously in membership recruiting campaigns, legislative activity and in promoting National Library Week at the state and local level.

You can start now by urging staff and trustees to join and renew their membership in WVLA. Mr. Robert McClarren, Librarian of the Huntington Public Library, our membership Chairman, anticipates your assistance and cooperation in making 1960 THE MEMBERSHIP YEAR.

An all day meeting of the Executive Board was held in Charleston on December 5, 1959. Each member, having received an advance copy of the agenda, came prepared to consider some

"TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION."

The 1960 Annual Conference will be held in Wheeling on October 21-22, 1960. Convention headquarters will be at the McClure Hotel. Miss Virginia Ebeling, Wheeling, is Conference Chairman and Mr. William C. Myers, Weirton, is Exhibits Chairman.

The Executive Board accepted and approved a budget for the coming year. Reports were received and filed from section and committee chairmen.

I should like to extend to each of you the opportunity of suggesting topics for discussion to be considered by the Executive Board at its next meeting. Items submitted should carry a brief explanation.

Nicholas Winowich, President
West Virginia Library Association

COLLEGE LIBRARY SECTION: PROJECTS FOR 1960

By

John E. Scott, Chairman

As Chairman of the College Library Section of the West Virginia Library Association, I am very interested in exploring some of the problems facing college librarians in the state today. In order to identify these problems, I wrote a letter to the head librarians of nearly every college in West Virginia asking them to list what appeared to them to be the most pressing problems facing the college librarian. Suggestions were also requested for particular projects on which the College Library Section could work during this year.

These letters were mailed to 17 college libraries including every college in the state with the exception of Marshall College and West Virginia University. The librarians of the latter two institutions were contacted personally at the Executive Board meeting in Charleston on December 5th. Out of the 17 letters sent, I received replies from the following seven colleges: Bethany, Davis and Elkins, Fairmont State, Glenville State, Shepherd, West Virginia Institute of Technology and Wheeling.

These librarians pointed out many problems in the state with which college librarians should be concerned. The following suggestions were selected by the chairman and then presented to the Executive Board meeting of the West Virginia Library Association on December 5th as possible projects to work on for this year.

1. Seek ways to implement the new ALA standards for college libraries.

2. Establish an exchange program for duplicate periodicals among college libraries within the state. (This could well include other types of libraries as well).

3. Compile a mimeographed directory listing staff members of each college library in West Virginia, including name as well as title of position. Libraries would be listed alphabetically by name of institution.

4. Change the name of the College Library Section to read College and University Library Section.

5. Sponsor a speaker or panel discussion at one of the main sessions of the annual conference.

6. Gather information on the uniformity or diversity of practice in the several activities of all college libraries in the state such as acquisition, processing, organization, faculty status, etc.

In addition to these, several other major problems or projects were suggested. I am sure many other college librarians could add more to the list. It is felt, however, that these listed will at least give us a nucleous to work on during the year. The Chairman will be calling upon other college librarians in the near future to assist in working on some of these projects. Further suggestions are encouraged.

Centralized Cataloging of Local History Items

By

Robert F. Munn
West Virginia University

The development of a collection on local history is generally recognized as one of the responsibilities of the public and college library. However, it is probably safe to say that many librarians tend to regard their local history collections with mixed emotions. While they recognize the importance of providing such material, they often begrudge the time and expense involved. For it is true that a local history collection presents many problems which the average library is ill-equipped to handle. For example, a small public or college library simply cannot devote hours of staff time in preparing want-lists, checking dealer's catalogs and the like.

Many librarians find that cataloging is the major problem presented by a local history collection. Wilson Cards are, for all practical purposes, never available. Even Library of Congress cards can be obtained only for the more widely-distributed publications. Yet the real "backbone" of a local history collection are the pamphlets, reports and the like printed by obscure presses in runs of a hundred copies or so. These present many difficulties to any cataloger. They are almost impossible to handle properly in a small library with only a few highly-specialized reference works and with a staff which is already overburdened. The

end result that some of the most valuable material in the library is often filed away someplace "until we can get around to it." In many cases, that day never comes.

The plan presented here may help to solve this problem in West Virginia libraries. The West Virginia Collection of the University Library makes an effort to obtain anything and everything by or about West Virginia. While some of this material is arranged in a special classification, much of it is fully cataloged in the conventional manner. In other words, a large part of the cataloging of West Virginia items is already being done. Most libraries could use the cards prepared for the West Virginia Collection with little or no change. All libraries would save time by so doing, and in the smaller libraries it might make the difference between having the material fully available or not.

Each issue of West Virginia Libraries will include a list of titles recently cataloged for the West Virginia Collection. Cards may be ordered for these titles at the rate of 11 cents for the first card and 5 cents for each additional card. This is the rate charged by the Library of Congress when cards are ordered by author. The cards will be supplied with or without the WVU call number. All orders should be addressed to the Editor.

It should be noted that the list of new additions to the West Virginia Collection is not intended primarily as a complete check list of West Virginiana. Rather, it is a list of the more obscure titles which are likely to be missed, and for which Library of Congress cards are usually not availa-

ble. It is our hope that this service will prove useful to the librarians of the state. All suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

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AN IMPORTANT WEST VIRGINIA JOURNAL

Many libraries of the state seem to be overlooking one of the most important journals in the field of West Virginiana. This is West Virginia Folklore. It is devoted to recording the ballads, folksongs, and folklore of West Virginia. This material is extremely interesting. A recent issue, for example, was devoted to the ghost stories of West Virginia.

West Virginia Folklore has appeared quarterly since 1951. The price is only $1 per year. It can be obtained by writing to the Editor;

Dr. Ruth Ann Musick
Fairmont State College
Fairmont, West Virginia

Books and Pamphlets Added to the West Virginia Collection West Virginia University Library

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(Catalog cards may be obtained for all titles listed below. For details see the preceding article)

Booth, Osborne. The chosen people St. Louis, Bethany Press. 1959. 264 p.

Burke, William. The mineral springs of Virginia. Richmond, Morris & Brother. 1851. 348 p.

Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company. Route resorts and resources of the Chesapeake and Ohio railway of Virginia and West Virginia. Richmond, Baughman Bros. 1879. 48 p.

Coal River Railroad Company. Prospectus of Coal River lands and railroad. 1897.

Craig, Edward M. Highways and byways of Appalachia; a study of the work of the Synod of Appalachia of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. [Kingsport, Tenn., Kingsport Press] 1927. 183 p.

Darlington, L. Neil. A record of the early settlement of lower Loup Creek, Fayette County, W. Va., 1798-1865. Fayetteville, W. Va., Fayette Tribune. 1933. 68 p.

Daughters of the American Revolution. West Virginia. Col. Andrew Donnally Chapter. McDowell County history; a pictorial history of McDowell County, West Virginia, covering both the old and the new. Fort Worth, Texas, University Supply & Equipment Co. 1959. 132 p.

Donnelly, Clarence S. History of the Fayette Baptist Association of West Virginia Baptist Convention. [Oak Hill, W. Va.] Priv. printed. 1953. 21 p.

Donovan, S. K. John Brown at Harper's Ferry and Charleston. Columbus, Ohio, F. J. Heer Printing Co. 1924. 46 p.

Dragoo, Don W. Archaic hunters of the upper Ohio valley. [Pittsburgh, Carnegie Institute. Museum] 1959. 246 p.

Germania Singing Society, Parkersburg, W. Va. Zum Fünfzig-Jahrigen Jubilaum des Germania Gesang-Vereins, Sept. 6-8, 1910. Parkersburg. 1910.

Goddard, Charles A. The Samuel Goddard families. Fayetteville, W. Va. 1935. [30] p.

Gresham, Perry E. Disciplines of the high calling. St. Louis, Bethany Press. 1954. 176 p.

Harmer, Harvey W. Harvey W. Harmer completes 62 years of continuous active practice of law. n.p. [1954?] 9 p.

Lunger, Harold L. The political ethics of Alexander Campbell. St. Louis, Bethany Press. [1954] 304 p.

McAllister, Lester G. Thomas Campbell: man of the Book. St. Louis, Bethany Press. [1954] 294 p.

McBurnie, James. A catechism for Romanists & Protestants respectfully presented to the citizens of Wheeling and its vicinity. Wheeling, Va., J. E. Wherton. 1848. 126 p.

Maury, Matthew F. The resources of the coal field of the upper Kanawha, with a sketch of the iron belt of Virginia, setting forth some of their markets and means of development. Baltimore, Sherwood and Co. 1873. 44 p.

Morgan, John. The last dollar; or, Uncle Tom's cabin inverted and the Pilgrim's progress exemplified. Kansas City, Mos., Franklin Hudson. [1921?] 96 p.

Ould & Carrington (firm) In the matter of the bonds of the State. Richmond, G. W. Gasy. 1870. 23 p.

Panhandle Coal Mining Institute of West Virginia, Wheeling, W. Va. By-laws, adopted December 20, 1920. [Wheeling?] [1920?] 7 p.

Peter, Martin L. Aurora community. [Aurora, W. Va.] 1950. 44 p.

Pritts, Joseph. Incidents of border life. Lancaster, Pa., G. Hills. 1841. 491 p.

Pugh, Maud. Capon Valley; it's pioneers and their descendants, 1698 to 1940. [Capon Bridge, W. Va., c1946-48] 2 v.

Red Sulphur Springs; a specialty for lung and throat diseases. Washington, R. O. Polkinhorn. 1880. 24 p.

Reizenstein, Milton. The economic history of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad 1827-1853. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Univ. Press. 1897. 88 p.

Ridgway, Thomas S. Geological report upon the iron ore, coal and other mineral deposits found along the line of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad. N. Y. 1872.

Slonaker, Arthur G. A history of Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, West Virginia. [Ann Arbor, Mich., University Microfilms] [1959] 285 ℓ. (Thesis, D.Ed., Univ. of Va., 1959)

Strother, David H. The capital of West Virginia and the Great Kanawha valley. Charleston, Journal Office. 1872. 32 p.

Walker, Granville T. Preaching in the thought of Alexander Campbell. St. Louis, Bethany Press. [1954] 271 p.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

CLARKSBURG

The Clarksburg Public Library had a special exhibit inviting children and young people to "Go Exploring with Books." A list showing the varied interests in addition to the age level of the books in the exhibit appeared in the Clarksburg Exponent-Telegram. At the close of the exhibit the books were placed in circulation.

MARION COUNTY

Mrs. Conoway of the Marion County Library announced a class for the blind has been organized. The Rev. L. W. Dodson, pastor of the Salem Baptist Church is acting as teacher. Materials for the course will be supplied by the Library of Congress and the Department of State.

MILTON

Mrs. Kline of the Milton Library announced that many new books had been received. She extended a special invitation to the public to visit the Library during this week. Winners in a reading club project were announced during Book Week.

MORGANTOWN

A Book Fair sponsored by the Morgantown Branch of the American Association of University Women was held Nov. 17-20. 3,500 books for young people from kindergarten through twelfth grade were displayed. This was the fourth year Mrs. Nellie Rider has served as Chairman, and she says, "The major purpose of the project is to give the community the opportunity to see the best in children's and youth literature and to aid those interested in securing suitable volumes."

OHIO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Book Week at the Ohio County Public Library was ushered in with a large display of recent books. Invitations previously mailed to teachers and other organizations resulted in a number of class visits to the Childrens Department, where they heard book talks, and were given an introduction to the Library. Groups of Cubs, Brownies, and Girl Scouts were included in the "class" visits. Book marks and booklists were given to all the children and parents who came at this time.

Bringing the Week to a climax, Virginia Ebeling and Nancy Matthews spoke to a meeting of about 400 girls, the "Stone-Agers," a project sponsored by Stone & Thomas department store. Sharing honors on the platform with the librarians was the teenagers favorite disc-jockey. (No payola involved!)

A Reading Shelf of selected Children's Books was placed in the High School Room for a certain group of ninth grade boys, upon the request of their teacher. By testing, these boys had been found to have reading abilities ranging from third to sixth grades. The teacher consulted weekly with the librarians on the project, and reported good progress. The actual grading of the books was not apparent to the boys, and an effort was made

to present books that did not look like they were "for kids," as one boy put it. Miss Matthews, supervisor of these two departments, is constantly on the alert for new projects.

The Ohio County Public Library has placed a deposit collection of books at the Y.W.C.A. for a Senior Citizens group. One of the members of the group acts as Librarian and calls special requests in to the Main library. The project has been enthusiastically received and interest maintained.

Available Back Issues of West Virginia Libraries

The following back issues of West Virginia Libraries can be had for the cost of postage by writing to the Kanawha County Public Library.

Date		No. of Copies
March	1955	1
December	1955	1
March	1956	4
June	1956	4
September	1956	4
December	1956	3
March	1957	6
June	1957	2
September	1957	5
December	1957	4
March	1958	1
June	1958	2
September	1958	3
December	1958	4

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

December 8, 1958 - December 1, 1959

Balance on hand December 8, 1958		$1190.08
8 deposits - Jan. 16, Feb. 17, Apr. 21, June 4, Sept. 3, Oct. 12 & 19, Nov. 17		1650.59
		$2840.67
Refund MARLC	$ 177.59	
114 Regular Members	342.00	
41 School Members	61.50	
16 Institutional Members	85.00	
24 Associate Members	48.00	
12 Exhibitors fees	225.00	
20 Subscriptions & West Virginia Libraries including 3 old vols.	20.00	
18 Copies W. Va. Authors	54.00	
84 Registrations at convention	84.00	
183 Meals	553.50	
	$1650.59	
		$2840.67

DISBURSEMENTS

Postage	$ 96.31	
Supplies for W. Va. Libraries	81.80	
Telephone bills	55.24	
Executive board meals	7.65	
Stationary supplies	20.97	
National Library Week publicity	36.49	
Guest tickets for MARLC banquet	3.50	
Rubber stamp	2.45	
Duplicating material for Legislation Committee & National Library Week	23.31	
Miscellaneous items spent by President	1.22	
Speakers fees for convention	272.39	
Travel expense to board meeting - M. L. Graham	3.72	
Refund on dues - E. Bland	1.50	
Hotel Prichard	524.99	
Meals 497.97		
Rooms for speakers & miscellaneous items 27.02		
Total Disbursements	$1131.54	
		$1131.54
Balance on hand December 1, 1959		$1709.13

LOCATION OF FUNDS

First National Bank, Morgantown, W. Va. $ 56.00

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Charleston Federal Savings & Loan Association
Bk. No. 3147

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